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Credit concerns dampen growth in Taiwan's Solar cell industry - Taiwan Ratings

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BANGALORE, Feb. 26, 2008 (Thomson Financial delivered by Newstex) -- Taiwan Ratings Corp said the Taiwanese

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companies will likely make greater inroads to the solar-cell business as the global energy (NASDAQ:GEGT) industry continues to expand adding that the rising credit risks threaten to overshadow the growth prospects for the industry.

The rating agency said the solar power (OTCBB:SOPW) has rapidly emerged as a major alternative energy option due to rising oil prices, heightened concerns about climate control, and improving technology and falling production costs.

Credit risks are likely to remain high over the next two to three years despite sunny growth prospects for domestic solar cell makers, it added.

Growing margin pressure has already led to the deterioration in 2007 operating margins for several key players that were unable to fully pass on higher raw material costs to customers due to concerns about increasing competition, Taiwan Ratings said.

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